



# Some Interesting Applications of Probabilistic Techniques in Structural Dynamic Analysis of Rocket Engines

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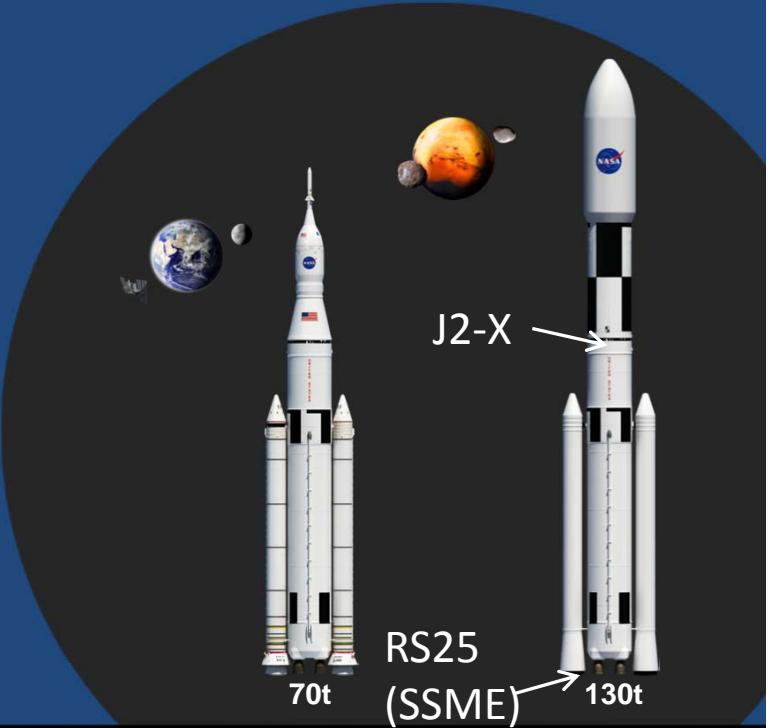
*Royal Institute of Technology, KTH, Stockholm  
Université de Liège, Liège, Belgium, Spring Semester, 2014*



# Travelling To and Through Space

## Space Launch System (SLS) – America's Heavy-lift Rocket

- Provides initial lift capacity of 70 metric tons (t), evolving to 130 t
- Carries the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) and significant science payloads
- Supports national and international missions beyond Earth's orbit, such as near-Earth asteroids and Mars



Solid Rocket  
Booster Test

Friction Stir  
Welding for Core  
Stage

Shell Buckling  
Structural Test

MPCV Stage Adapter  
Assembly

Selective Laser  
Melting Engine  
Parts

RS-25 (SSME) Core  
Stage Engines in  
Inventory

***"We're not dead yet!"***



# Agenda

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- Introduction
- Prediction of Probability of Failure of Turbine Blades during Testing\*
- Combination of Random and Harmonic Loads in Structures<sup>¥</sup>
- Accounting for Speed Variation (Dither) of Turbomachinery in Analysis<sup>#</sup>
- Conclusion

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**\*Probabilistic Methods to Determine Resonance Risk and Damping for Rocket Turbine Blades**

Andrew M. Brown, Michael DeHaye, Steven DeLessio, *Journal of Propulsion and Power*, 2013, Vol.29: 1367-1373, 10.2514/1.B3483

**<sup>¥</sup>Combining Loads from Random and Harmonic Excitation Using the Monte Carlo Technique**

Andrew M. Brown, *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*, Vol. 37, No. 4 (2000), pp. 541-543. doi: 10.2514/2.3599  
also full details in NASA/TP—2003–212257.

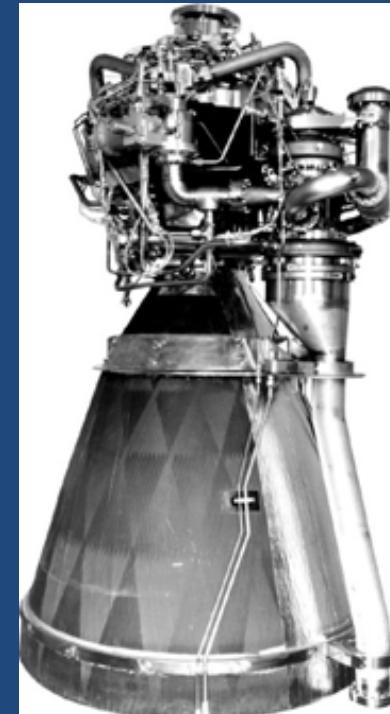
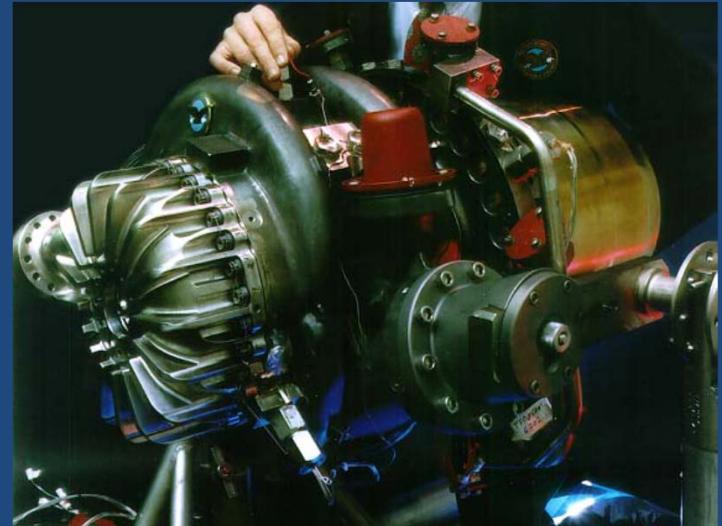
**#Implementation of Speed Variation in the Structural Dynamic Assessment of Turbomachinery Flow Path Components**

Andrew M. Brown, R. Benjamin Davis and Michael K. DeHaye  
*J. Eng. Gas Turbines Power* 135(10), 102503 (Aug 30, 2013) Paper No: GTP-13-1206; doi: 10.1115/1.4024960



# How turbomachinery is used in Rocket Engines

- Liquid Fuel (LH2, Kerosene) and Oxidizer (LO2) are stored in Fuel tanks at a few atmospheres.
- Turbines, driven by hot gas created by mini-combustors, tied with shaft to pump, which sucks in propellants and increases their pressures to several hundred atm.
- High pressure propellants sent to Combustion chamber, which ignites mixture with injectors
- Very hot gas directed to converging/diverging Nozzle to increase flow to very high velocity for thrust.

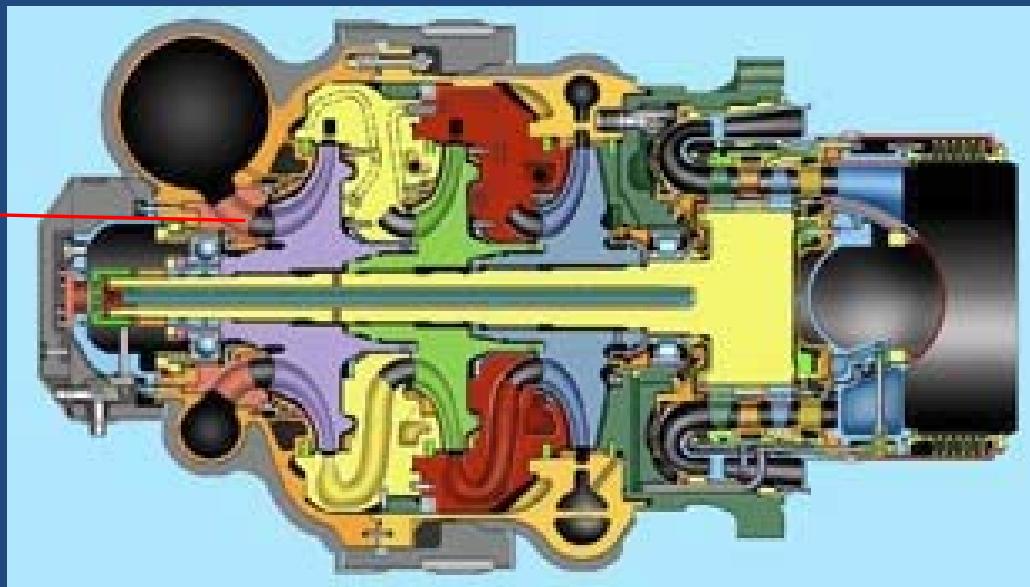
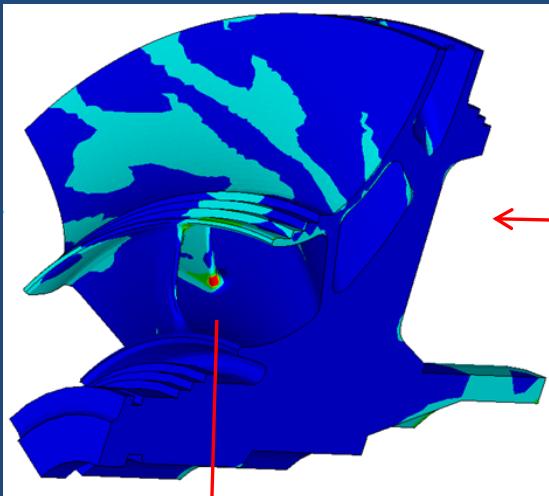


*MSFC Fastrac engine*



## Motivation: Avoid High Cycle Fatigue Cracking in Turbomachinery

- Cracks found during ground-test program stop engine development
  - If cracks propagates, it could liberate a piece, which at very high rotational speeds could be catastrophic (i.e., engine will explode).



- In J2-X Rocket Engine program, became apparent that turbine blade external damper (needed to show deterministic design good) behind schedule.
- Identified probabilistic analysis as method to quantify risk during individual tests in series.



## Prediction of Probability of Failure of Turbine Blades during Testing – Motivation

- Standard blade forced-response analysis process recognizes uncertainty in material properties and in prediction of natural frequencies.
- For J-2X clear that other non-deterministic variables (damping, mistuning) also important.
- Needed to properly assess risk of blade failure using actual non-deterministic nature of these rv's rather than using deterministic design values.
- Substantial research and application in literature of probabilistic methods to turbomachinery issues
  - Much of effort (“top down”) calculates reliability by comparison to measured reliability of sub-systems on similar engines - Packard, '02.
  - Crack growth characterization in probabilistic FEA (“bottoms-up”) - Petrov, '08.
- OBJECTIVE -calculate probability of failure using closed-form finite life solutions in terms of these 4 non-deterministic variables and peak FEA-derived stress state.
- Answer 1) What is  $P_f$  during a specific test series?
  - 2) If previous analysis showed low safety factors, why didn't it fail?



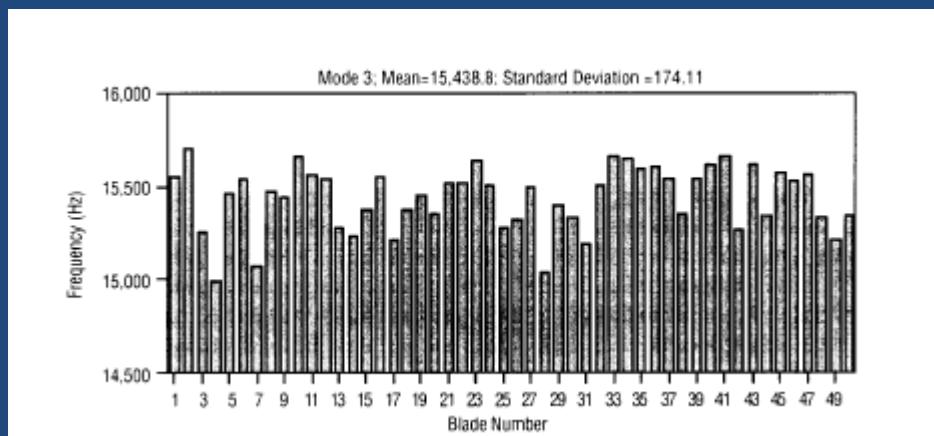
# Input Variables & Assumptions

A. Brown  
MSFC Propulsion  
Structural Dynamics

- Variation of Natural Frequency  $f_n$  typically accounted for using rule-of-thumb  $+/- 10\%$  in frequency response analysis.



- Here, data from previous engine programs show distribution is somewhat Gaussian with a  $3\sigma$  variation of  $+/- 5\%$  ( $\rho=1.67\%$ ).





# Input Variables & Assumptions

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- In gas-generator rocket engine cycle flow rate, turbine efficiency determines rotor rotational rate, so Operating Speed is random variable.
- For the engine balance used here, resulting operating speed distribution is

Speed  $\sim N(\mu=30,635 \text{ rpm}, \sigma=307.7 \text{ rpm})$



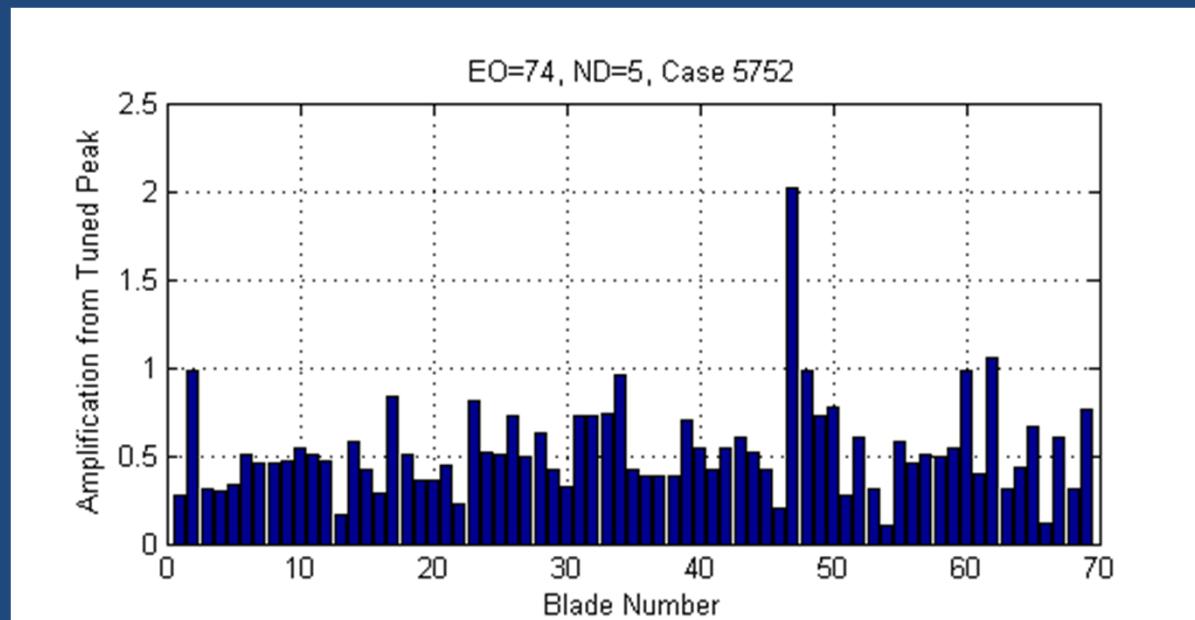
+/-  $3\sigma$  range is 6%

- Exception is in “Powerpack” testing, where turbopumps are isolated and rotational speed is controlled.



# Input RV's – Mistuning Background

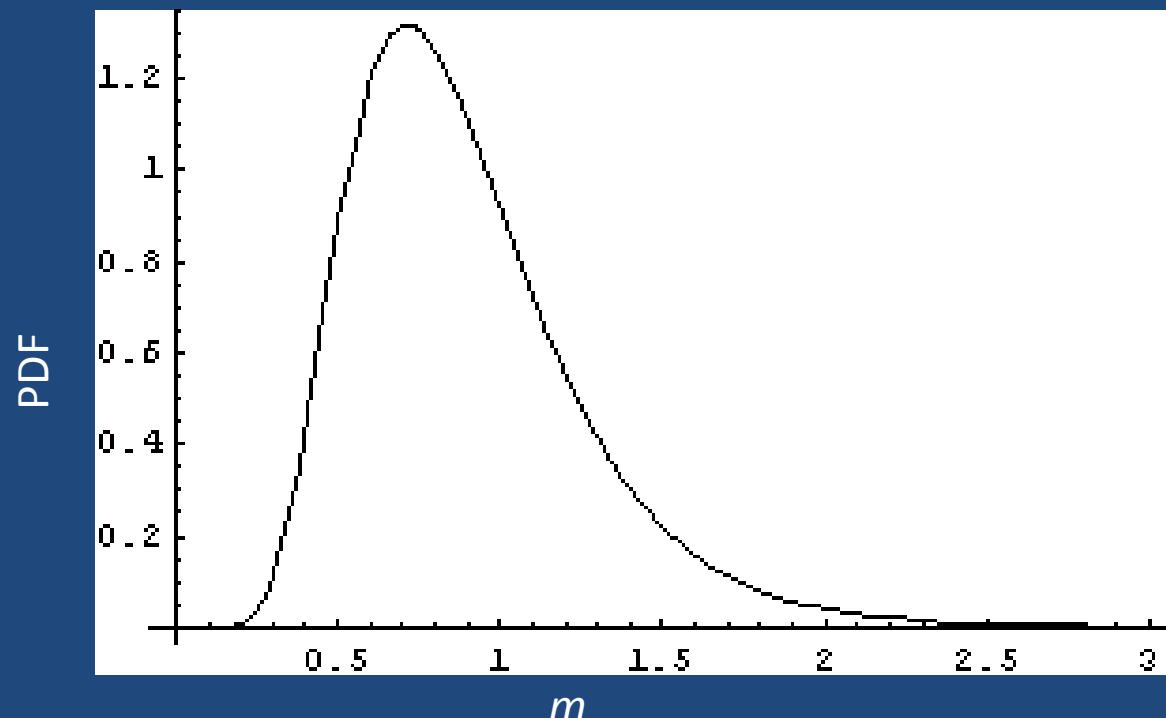
- Imperfectly cyclically-symmetric (*mistuned*) bladed-disks exhibit warping of nodal-diameter modes and amplification of peak response compared to perfect cyclic-symmetric (*tuned*) disk.
- Effects of mistuning non-deterministic since every build will be different.
- J-2X is one of first rocket turbopumps developed since practical methods developed to predict statistics of mistuning amplification value  $m$ .
- Analysis performed (“SNM method”) to develop statistics of  $m$  for 3 of J-2X problematic modes.





# Statistics of Amplification due to Mistuning

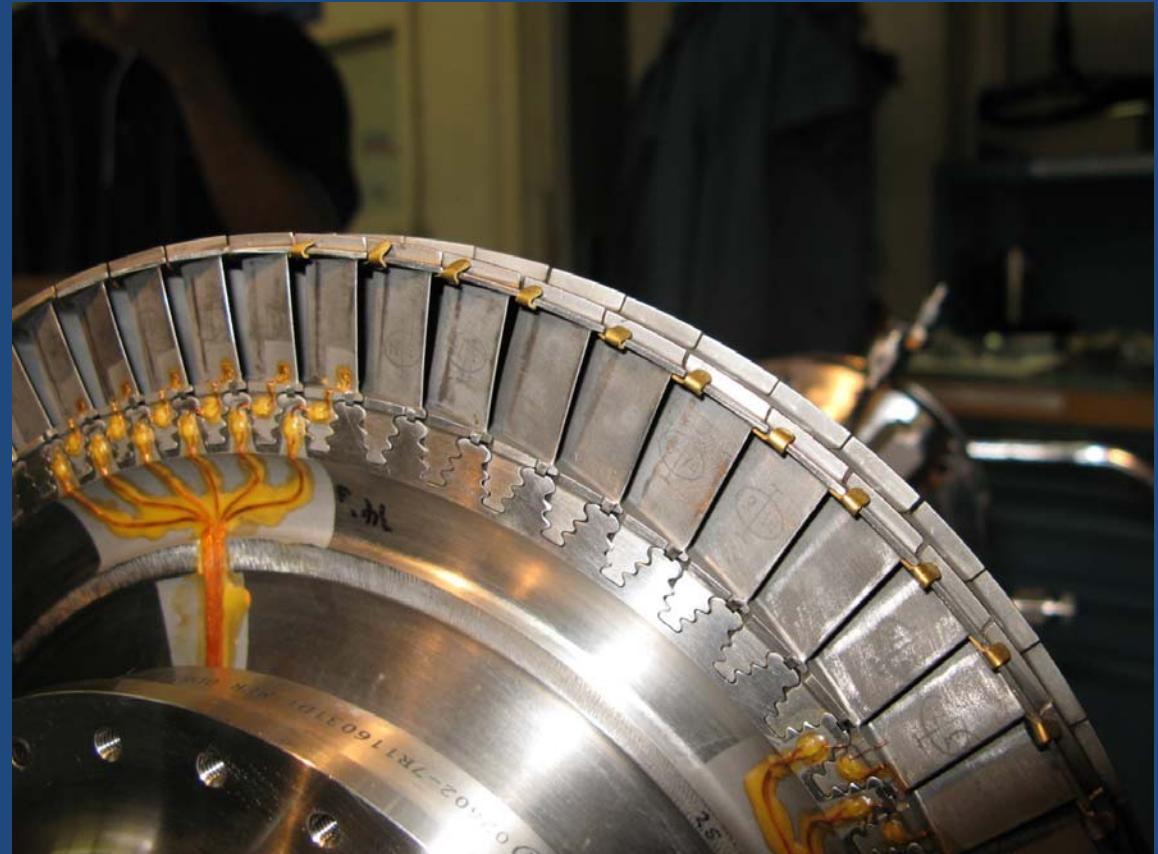
- For 69 blade-disks, stats developed for entire-blade population (690,000) and max-responding blade per bladed-disk population (10,000) for 3 different modes.
- Debate → concensus: for probabilistic analysis, use mean value of 0.9 with Lognormal fit.





# Input RV's – Damping

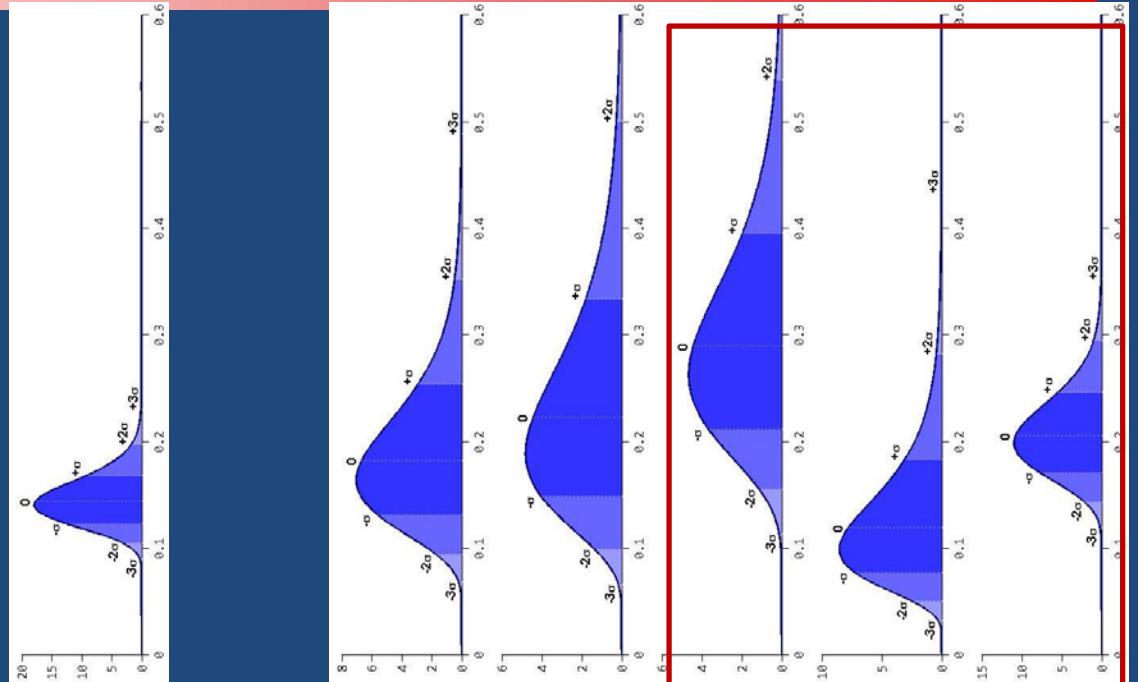
- Damping is critical parameter for forced response prediction, so “whirligig” test program used to obtain data.
- Whirligig was mechanically-driven rotor with similar bladed-disk (J2-S) with similar dampers excited by pressurized orifice plate to simulate blade excitation.
- Key assumption is that this reflects true configuration.
- SDOF Curve fit technique applied to selected top-responding blades to derive damping from response.





# Damping Results from Whirligig

- Data shows wide-variation in damping, but reasonable population (15-20 acceptable samples) for characterization of mean and type.
- Lognormal distribution fits obtained for each mode.



| Nodal Diameter         |       | 5     | 5     | 5 | 5     | 5 | 5     | 5     | 5     | 5     | 5     | 5 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|-------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| Mode                   |       | 3     | 4     | 5 | 6     | 7 | 8     | 9     | 10    | 11    | 12    |   |
| Samples                |       | 18    | 17    |   | 17    |   | 14    | 12    | 8     | 16    | 20    |   |
| Amp                    | Mean  | 15.6  | 7.8   |   | 20.7  |   | 18.9  | 13.5  | 6.0   | 43.5  | 15.4  |   |
|                        | Sigma | 3.2   | 1.9   |   | 9.2   |   | 18.6  | 8.4   | 0.9   | 17.7  | 3.2   |   |
|                        | Min   | 9.9   | 5.0   |   | 7.4   |   | 5.4   | 6.1   | 5.0   | 23.8  | 12.4  |   |
|                        | Max   | 20.3  | 11.2  |   | 35.4  |   | 54.2  | 33.6  | 7.7   | 87.7  | 24.1  |   |
| Freq                   | Mean  | 10967 | 13831 |   | 23068 |   | 28867 | 30588 | 32998 | 34643 | 37191 |   |
|                        | Sigma | 17    | 69    |   | 282   |   | 345   | 211   | 256   | 220   | 132   |   |
|                        | Min   | 10936 | 13695 |   | 22921 |   | 28446 | 30165 | 32497 | 34357 | 37056 |   |
|                        | Max   | 10997 | 13908 |   | 23816 |   | 29662 | 30907 | 33311 | 35013 | 37346 |   |
| Zeta                   | Mean  | 0.404 | 0.702 |   | 0.146 |   | 0.193 | 0.242 | 0.304 | 0.131 | 0.209 |   |
|                        | Sigma | 0.103 | 0.163 |   | 0.023 |   | 0.065 | 0.102 | 0.097 | 0.059 | 0.038 |   |
|                        | Min   | 0.314 | 0.520 |   | 0.106 |   | 0.116 | 0.139 | 0.162 | 0.078 | 0.153 |   |
|                        | Max   | 0.720 | 0.976 |   | 0.191 |   | 0.348 | 0.450 | 0.423 | 0.325 | 0.293 |   |
| LogNormal Dist.:       |       |       |       |   |       |   |       |       |       |       |       |   |
| 0 $\sigma$ Equivalent  |       | 0.391 | 0.684 |   | 0.144 |   | 0.183 | 0.223 | 0.290 | 0.119 | 0.206 |   |
| - $\sigma$ Equivalent  |       | 0.305 | 0.544 |   | 0.123 |   | 0.132 | 0.149 | 0.212 | 0.078 | 0.172 |   |
| -2 $\sigma$ Equivalent |       | 0.237 | 0.433 |   | 0.105 |   | 0.095 | 0.099 | 0.155 | 0.051 | 0.143 |   |
| -3 $\sigma$ Equivalent |       | 0.184 | 0.343 |   | 0.090 |   | 0.068 | 0.066 | 0.113 | 0.033 | 0.119 |   |



# Probabilistic Analysis

- First, determine Stress state ( $S_a$ ,  $S_m$ ) of problem location from finite element frequency response analysis at resonance (w.  $\zeta=.0025$ ).
- Then, for a sample taken from distributions of all random variables (ie, Monte Carlo analysis), calculate Equivalent Alternating Stress  $A_{eq}$ :

$$A_{eq} = \frac{S_a * FAF * m * \frac{.0025}{0.01\zeta} * \sqrt{\frac{1}{((1 - (\frac{speedrpm}{fnrpm})^2)^2 + (\frac{2(0.01)\zeta * speedrpm}{fnrpm})^2)} - \frac{1}{2(0.01)\zeta}}}{1 - \frac{S_m}{F_{tu}}}$$

- Nominal HCF cycle count data (“s-n curves”) ->

$$N_{fail} = 10^{(-9.2461 \times \log_{10}(A_{eq}) + 20.672)}$$

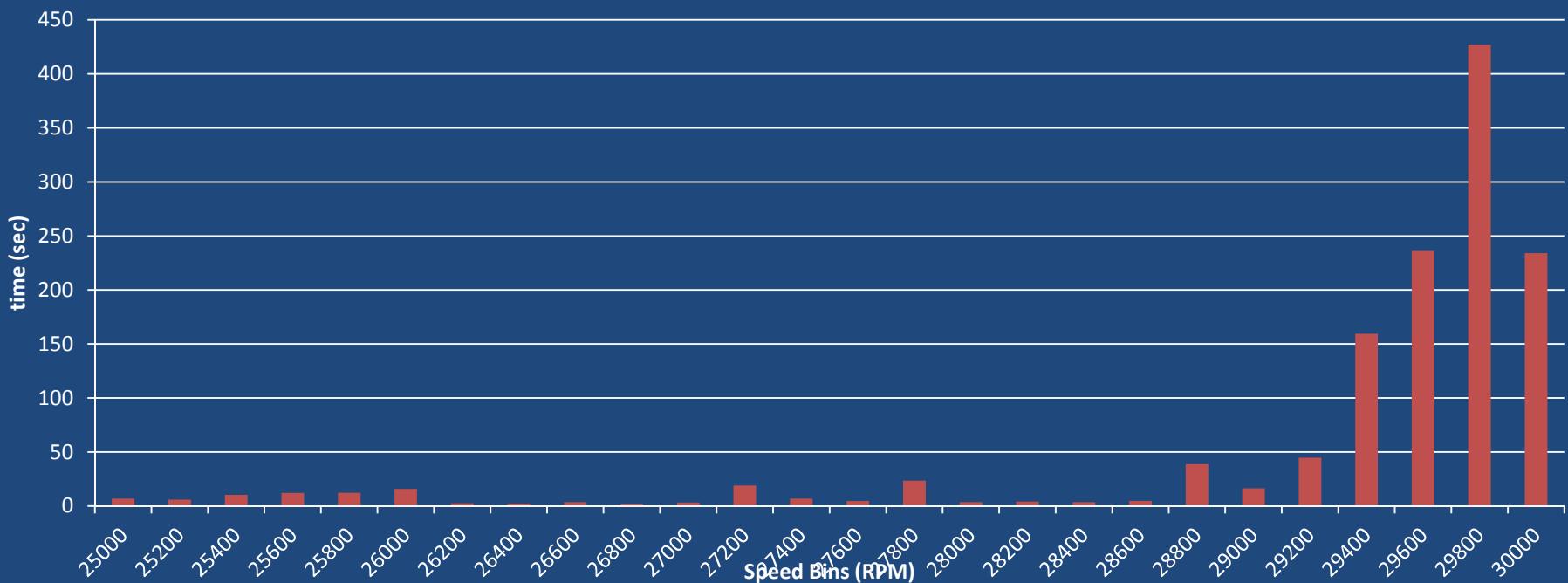
- Finally, failure using “finite life approach” is

$$\Phi = \frac{N_{accum}}{N_{fail}} > 1$$



# Probability of Failure using Damage Fraction

- $N_{\text{accum}}$  is excitation frequency \* time at that frequency.
  - Speeds in test series recorded in 80 rpm wide bins, calculate incremental damage fraction within each  $i$ 'th bin.



$$\Phi_i = \int_0^{time_i} d\Phi = \int_0^{time_i} \frac{\Omega_i}{N_{fail}} dt \quad \rightarrow \quad \Phi_{total} = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{number of bins}} \Phi_i$$

$$p_f = p(\Phi > 1) = \frac{\# \text{samples } \Phi > 1}{\text{total } \# \text{samples}}$$



## Technique Verification

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- To “verify” technique,  $p_f$  was calculated for tests that had already taken place, assuming both that the speeds are “post-priori” known and “a-priori” unknown.
- Deterministic analysis indicated Safety Factor  $< 1$  for mode 14 in ND 5 family
  - $f_n \sim N(36851 \text{ hz}, 615 \text{ hz})$ ,  $\zeta \sim LN(0.304\%, .097\%)$ .
- Results for these technique verifications were reasonable
  - for a single hot-fire test,  $p_f$  only 1% (specifically because of a low probability of resonance) , so fact that blade did not crack should be expected.

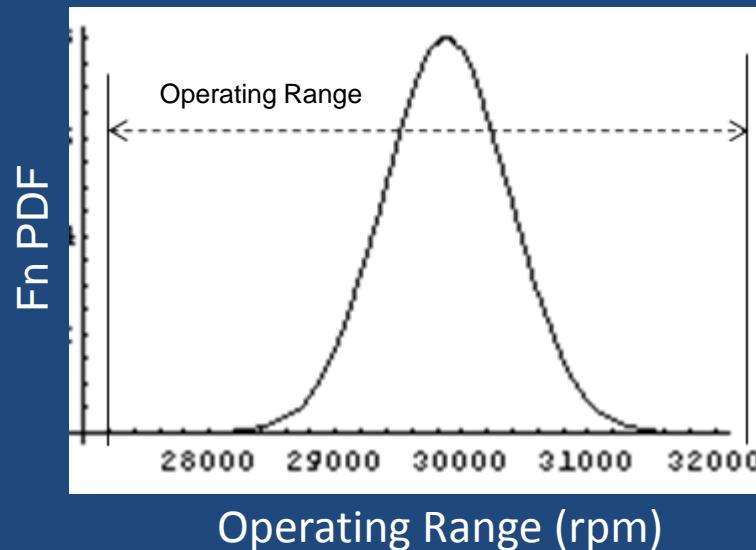


# J-2X Powerpack II A-priori Analysis

- Speed mean controllable, enabling engineering team to make assumptions of 1200s total run time, 4 dwells of 100s, 20 dwells of 30s, ramping from 26902 rpm-31200 rpm at continuous rate of 20 rpm/s (during ramps).

$$P_f = 33.8\%$$

- Explanation for results is extensive overlap of  $fn$  distribution over operating range (ensuring resonance) , and lower damping of problematic mode.



- Test Results – dampers not put in, extra precautions taken, blade did not fail  
*“Statisticians are never wrong, they are only unlucky”*



# J-2X Engine 10001 A-Priori Analysis

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- Equally important to assess  $P_f$  for first full-scale engine test to determine if external blade dampers required.
- In this test speed will resolve to a single value within distribution following Speed  $\sim N(30635 \text{ rpm}, 307 \text{ rpm})$ .
- Time of operation given as 550 s.
- Single dwell formulation relatively simple, enables large (100,000) sample MC run.
- $P_f = 1.06\%$ , very low because of low probability of resonance itself, which was independently calculated (using only rv's speed and natural frequency) to be  $P_{\text{resonance}} = 3.1\%$ .



# Sources of Error and Conclusions

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- Error:
  - Some non-deterministic input variables assumed to be deterministic.
  - Mistuning and Damping assumed to be independent and they probably are not; unknown effect on results.
  - Response away from resonance approximated by SDOF curve fit.
- Framework procedure established for quantifying risk of turbine blade failure due to resonance.
- Probabilistic analysis enable first-time use of statistical distributions of most of random variables, including Natural Frequency, Operational Speed, Mistuning, and Damping.
- Results very useful for project decision-making during development phase.
- Framework also applied to a number of other J2X turbopump dynamics issues.
  - Used to determine appropriate deterministic value of damping to use for design for specific reliability goals.
  - Design of test series to put equivalent damage on pump inducer blade as it would experience if it were at resonance (worst case), given that the fn is actually non-deterministic.

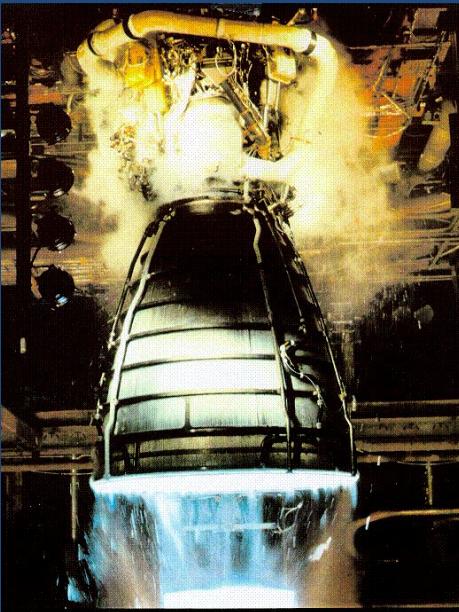


# Combination of Random and Harmonic Loads in Structures – Introduction

- Many structural components are in an environment with both random and harmonic loads.

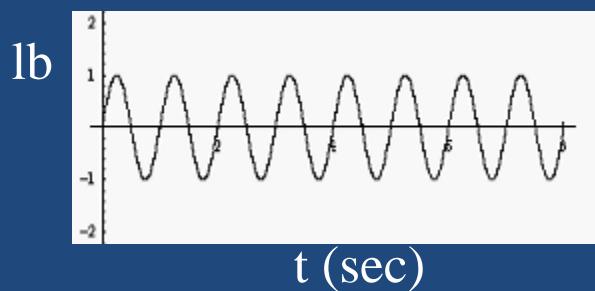
- Rocket Engines

*Turbopump-harmonic*



- Frequency response analysis to generate harmonic load first calculated

e.g., 1 lb Sine  
Amplitude load at 1 hz



*Combustion-random*

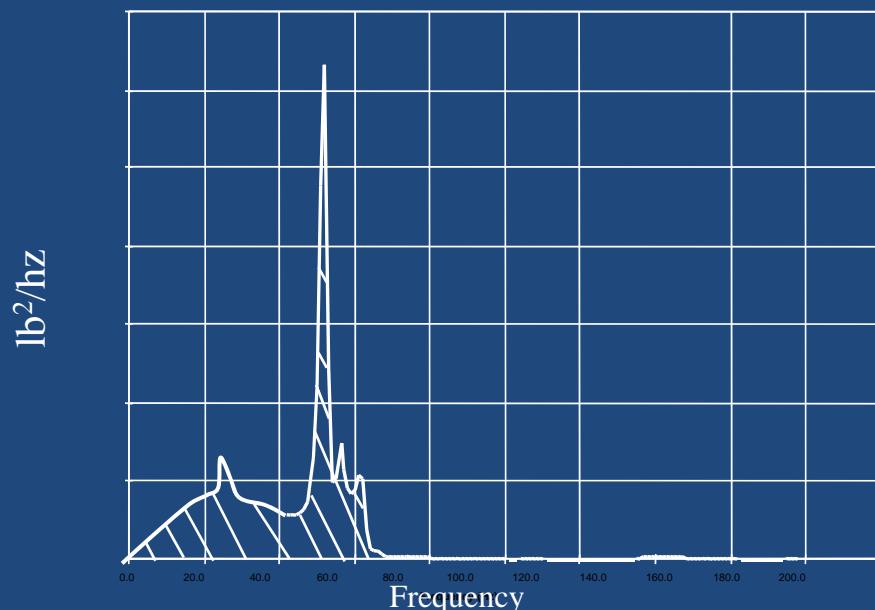
- Each type first calculated individually.
- Results of analyses then combined for use by stress in both ultimate/yield analysis and HCF analysis.



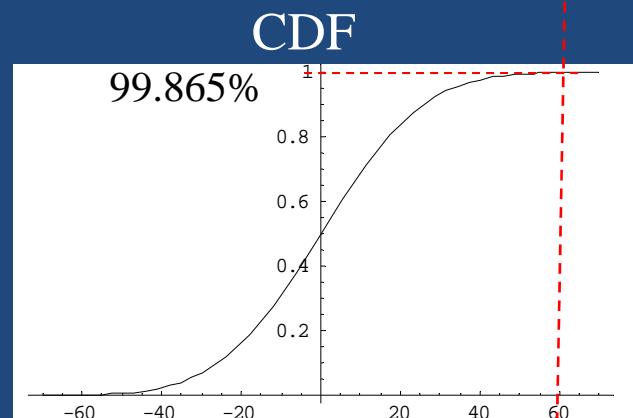
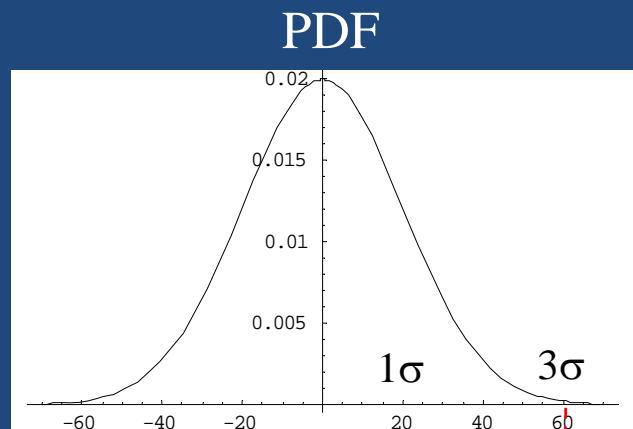
# Random Loads

- PSD's of accelerations at different zones in engine defined and applied as base drive random analysis.

Typical Random Response Analysis Result



Assumed Gaussian Distribution



Mean Square  $\Phi^2$  = Area under random response curve  
 $= 400 \text{ lb}^2$

$$1\sigma = RMS = \sqrt{\Phi^2} = 20lb$$

- Loads extremely sensitive to probability level chosen (or actually obtained) because of flatness of Cumulative Distribution Function at tails.



# Loads Combination Equations

- Extensive, difficult research into reducing each load type individually; however, little thought into how load is combined.
- Main goal of methods is to estimate an “equivalent  $3\sigma$ ” design load;
  - $3\sigma$  is traditionally used for pure random loading, i.e., the load that exceeds 99.865% of the occurrences.
- “Standard Method” used in SSME:

$$\text{design load} = A_{\sin} + 3\sigma_{\text{ran}}$$

- “3\*ssMS” Method: 
$$\text{design load} = 3\sqrt{(\sigma_{\sin})^2 + (\sigma_{\text{random}})^2}$$
- Both techniques exceed 99.865% by definition, not tied to a specific probability.
- “Peak” method proposed by Steinberg, adopted initially by engine contractors.

$$\text{design load} = \sqrt{(A_{\sin})^2 + (3\sigma_{\text{random}})^2}$$



# Typical MC-1 Engine Load Set

| Glue Bracket 3                            | Shear 1    | Shear 2    | Axial       | Bending 1  | Bending 2   | Torque      |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>GB-3</b>                               | (lbs)      | (lbs)      | (lbs)       | (in-lbs)   | (in-lbs)    | (in-lbs)    |
| Sine X                                    | 97         | 7          | 0           | 3          | 78          | 72          |
| Sine Y                                    | 91         | 7          | 0           | 3          | 98          | 70          |
| Sine Z                                    | 119        | 5          | 0           | 2          | 78          | 52          |
| <b>Sine Peak (RSS)</b>                    | <b>178</b> | <b>11</b>  | <b>0</b>    | <b>5</b>   | <b>148</b>  | <b>113</b>  |
| 3 sig Random X                            | 450        | 113        | 0           | 16         | 25          | 1475        |
| 3 sig Random Y                            | 781        | 66         | 0           | 9          | 41          | 828         |
| 3 sig Random Z                            | 155        | 1          | 0           | 4          | 1101        | 6           |
| <b>Random Peak (RSS)</b>                  | <b>915</b> | <b>130</b> | <b>0</b>    | <b>19</b>  | <b>1102</b> | <b>1692</b> |
| <b>Stringer Bracket 3 (Lower Support)</b> |            |            |             |            |             |             |
| <b>SB-6</b>                               |            |            |             |            |             |             |
| Sine X                                    | 18         | 8          | 11          | 8          | 17          | 2           |
| Sine Y                                    | 12         | 4          | 10          | 7          | 11          | 1           |
| Sine Z                                    | 11         | 12         | 8           | 3          | 28          | 3           |
| <b>Sine Peak (RSS)</b>                    | <b>24</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>17</b>   | <b>11</b>  | <b>34</b>   | <b>4</b>    |
| 3 sig Random X                            | 35         | 333        | 6           | 85         | 1349        | 52          |
| 3 sig Random Y                            | 60         | 192        | 10          | 145        | 775         | 29          |
| 3 sig Random Z                            | 12         | 1          | 11          | 83         | 6           | 0           |
| <b>Random Peak (RSS)</b>                  | <b>70</b>  | <b>384</b> | <b>16</b>   | <b>187</b> | <b>1556</b> | <b>59</b>   |
| <b>Stringer Bracket 3 (Upper Support)</b> |            |            |             |            |             |             |
| <b>SB-5</b>                               |            |            |             |            |             |             |
| Sine X                                    | 59         | 7          | 21          | 81         | 9           | 21          |
| Sine Y                                    | 58         | 5          | 21          | 80         | 6           | 26          |
| Sine Z                                    | 43         | 4          | 16          | 59         | 5           | 25          |
| <b>Sine Peak (RSS)</b>                    | <b>93</b>  | <b>9</b>   | <b>34</b>   | <b>129</b> | <b>12</b>   | <b>42</b>   |
| 3 sig Random X                            | 44         | 447        | 117         | 93         | 1557        | 69          |
| 3 sig Random Y                            | 76         | 256        | 202         | 160        | 893         | 38          |
| 3 sig Random Z                            | 139        | 2          | 1002        | 322        | 4           | 0           |
| <b>Random Peak (RSS)</b>                  | <b>165</b> | <b>515</b> | <b>1029</b> | <b>371</b> | <b>1795</b> | <b>79</b>   |



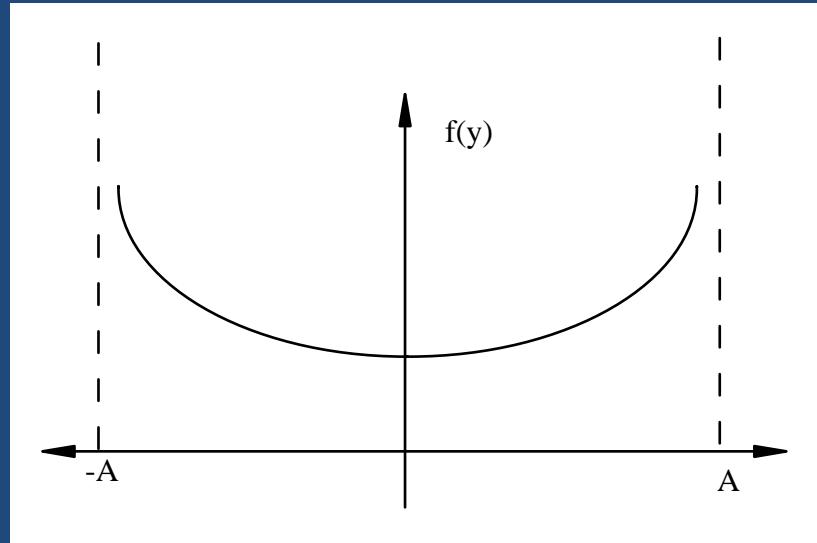
# Loads Combination using PDF's

- Harmonic signal can be defined as stationary random process when combined with an independent Gaussian process since phase relationship with random signal is random.
- Define harmonic signal as

$$y_{\sin} = A \sin(\omega t + \varphi)$$

- Then PDF of sine distribution is

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{\pi A \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{y}{A}\right)^2}}$$





# “Exact” Solution Now Easily Obtained

- Create and Integrate Joint PDF of Normal and Sine Distributions to obtain CDF of design load  $z$ :

$$CDF(z) = \int_{-A}^A \left( \frac{1}{\sigma_{ran} \sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{z-y} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{x}{\sigma_{ran}}\right)^2\right) dx \right) \frac{1}{\pi A \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{y}{A}\right)^2}} dy$$

- *Mathematica*® can perform not only integration, but also inverse:
  - Given a load (e.g. calculated using “standard” method) calculate exact reliability level.
  - Given a desired reliability level, solve for corresponding load.
- Developed Excel Macro:
  - easily integrates into existing loads calculation spreadsheets
  - Accesses *Mathematica*® to perform inverse-integration to obtain design load corresponding to 99.865% reliability
  - returns value seamlessly into spreadsheet.



# Loads Combination using Monte Carlo

- Gaussian random vector using random analysis results ( $\sigma_{\text{ran}}$ ) first simulated:

$$\{r\} \sim N(0.0, \sigma_{\text{random}})$$

- Independent sine vector generated using harmonic analysis results ( $A_i$ ):

- Create uniform distribution  $\{x\}_i \sim U(0,1)$
  - Generate sine distribution  $\{y\}_i = A_i \sin(2 \pi \{x\}_i)$

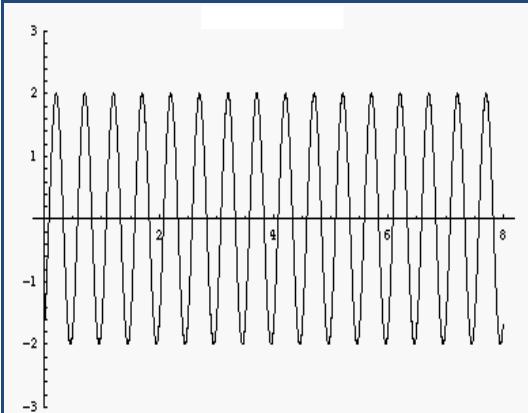
- Vectors of same length added to form total response:

$$\{z\} = \{r\} + \{y\}$$

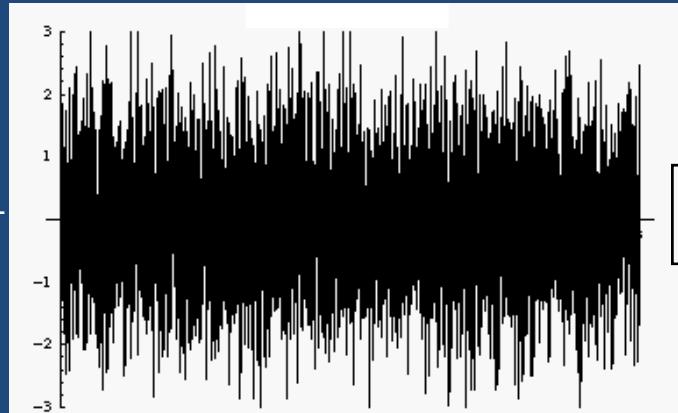
- CDF calculated for  $\{z\}$ , 99.865% (or any other desired level) selected.
- Excel Macro created to perform Monte Carlo Simulation to obtain design load corresponding to 99.865% reliability (within Excel).
  - Less than a minute for 400,000 samples.



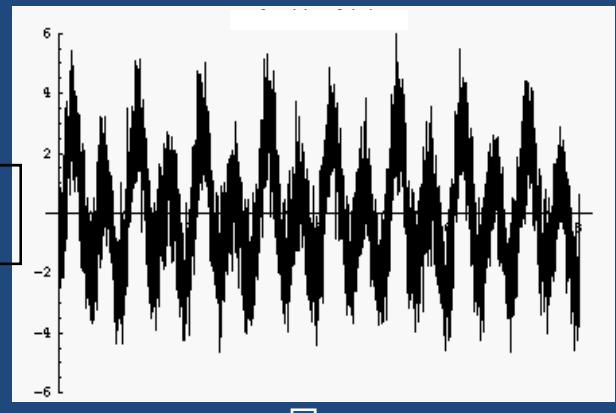
# Example



$$y = 20 \sin \omega t$$



$$r = N(\mu=0, \sigma=10)$$



CDF

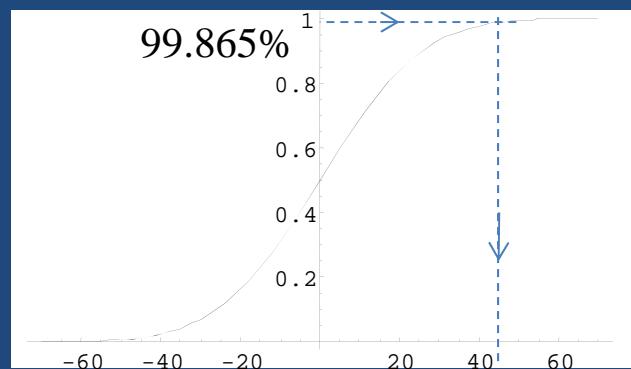


$$F(z) = \int_{-A}^A \left( \frac{1}{\sigma_{ran} \sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{z-y} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{x}{\sigma_{ran}}\right)^2\right) dx \right) \frac{1}{\pi A \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{y}{A}\right)^2}} dy$$

Integral of Joint PDF

Microsoft Excel

Macro



Standard method  $\rightarrow 50$   
SRSS  $\longrightarrow 51.96$   
Peak  $\longrightarrow 36.05$

Design Load = 44.07

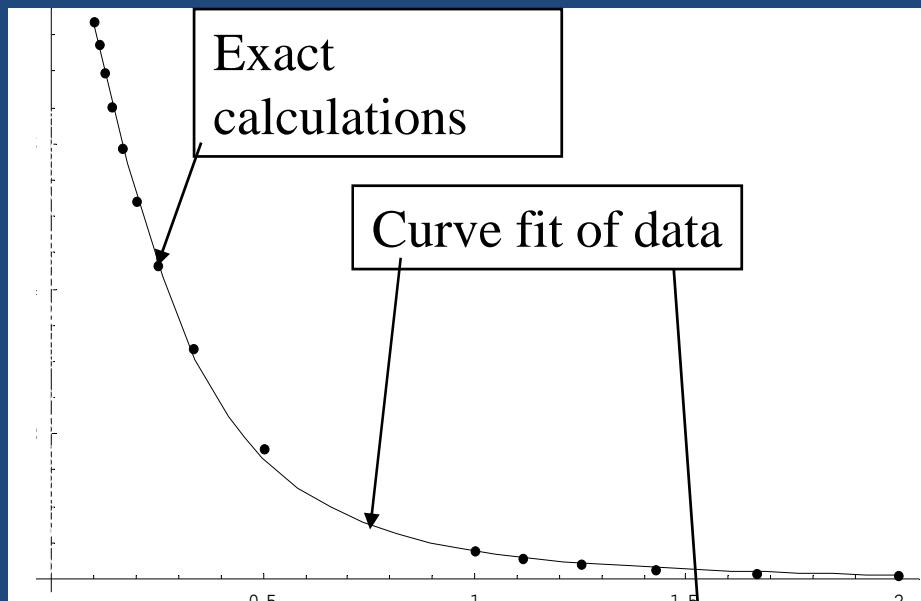


# Evaluation and Comparison of Methods

| Amp. Sine | 1 $\sigma$ random | Integration method for 99.865% (baseline) | MC 99.860 (400,000 samples) | standard method - A + 3 $\sigma$ | % over- shoot from baseline | CDF value from integration | 3*ssMS  | % over- shoot | CDF value from integration | "peak" method - ss(3sig,A) | % over- shoot | CDF value from integration |
|-----------|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| 10        | 5                 | 22.034                                    | 22.031                      | 25                               | 13.5%                       | 99.970%                    | 25.981  | 17.9%         | 99.990%                    | 18.028                     | -18.2%        | 93.930%                    |
| 5         | 5                 | 17.668                                    | 17.653                      | 20                               | 13.2%                       | 99.957%                    | 18.371  | 4.0%          | 99.912%                    | 15.811                     | -10.5%        | 94.896%                    |
| 5         | 20                | 60.915                                    | 60.888                      | 65                               | 6.7%                        | 99.919%                    | 60.930  | 0.03%         | 99.865%                    | 60.208                     | -1.2%         | 95.758%                    |
| 26        | 4                 | 34.760                                    | 34.772                      | 38                               | 9.3%                        | 99.983%                    | 56.445  | 62.4%         | 100.000%                   | 28.636                     | -17.6%        | 94.291%                    |
| 97        | 14.67             | 129.081                                   | 129.195                     | 141.01                           | 9.2%                        | 99.986%                    | 210.422 | 63.0%         | 100.000%                   | 106.517                    | -17.5%        | 94.316%                    |
| 50        | 98.7              | 313.047                                   | 313.422                     | 346.1                            | 10.6%                       | 99.951%                    | 314.524 | 0.5%          | 99.871%                    | 300.292                    | -4.1%         | 95.534%                    |
| 64        | 109.33            | 352.240                                   | 353.079                     | 391.99                           | 11.3%                       | 99.955%                    | 354.978 | 0.8%          | 99.875%                    | 334.176                    | -5.1%         | 95.443%                    |

- MC closely agrees with Integration method
- Two generally accepted methods always above 99.965% .
- “Peak” method underpredicts “3 $\sigma$ ” value

# Curve Fit of Overshoot of 3\*ssMS Method over CDF of 99.865%



Ratio  $x = \sigma_{\text{ran}}/A_{\sin}$

$$\text{overshoot} = 0.0323928e^{-x} \left( -\frac{0.00257298}{x^5} + \frac{0.0722376}{x^4} - \frac{0.715841}{x^3} + \frac{2.64516}{x^2} + \frac{1.24289}{x} \right)$$

$$\text{design load} = \frac{3\sqrt{\left(\frac{A_{\sin}}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 + \sigma_{\text{ran}}^2}}{1 + \text{overshoot}} .$$

- Similar equation derived for "Equiv. 2 $\sigma$ " (97.725%, research suggests more appropriate for HCF)



# Conclusions

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- Probability Values calculated, compared, & evaluated for several industry-proposed methods for combining random and harmonic loads.
- Two new excel macros written to calculate combined load for any specific probability level.
- Closed form Curve fits generated for widely used  $3\sigma$  and  $2\sigma$  probability levels.
- For design of lightweight aerospace components, obtaining accurate, reproducible, statistically meaningful answer critical.



## Accounting for Speed Variation (Dither) of Turbomachinery in Analysis – Introduction

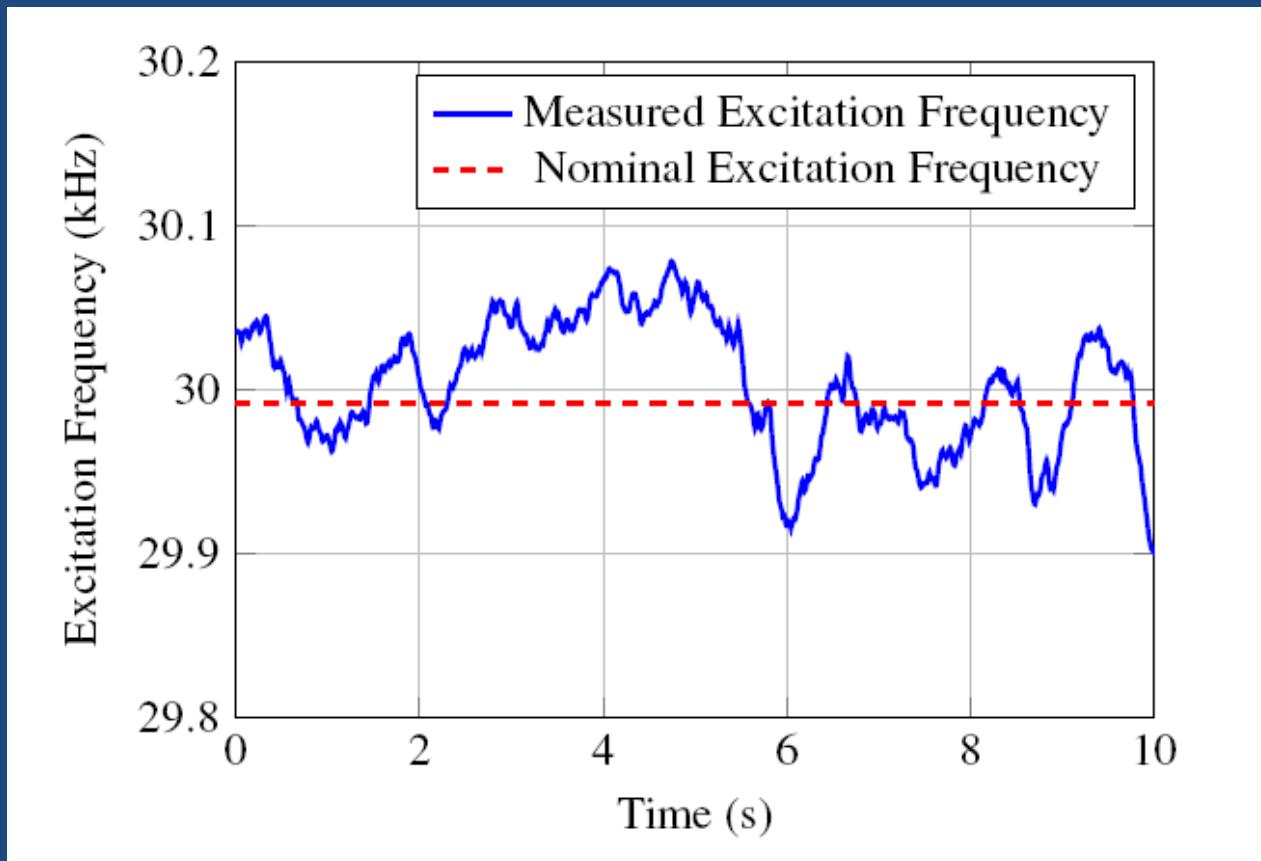
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- Structural ( $S_{ult}$  & HCF) assessment critical for turbomachinery flow path components undergoing possible resonance.
- Resonance generally avoided, but impossible for higher modes found with modern analysis, especially with wide speed ranges.
  - J2-X Fuel Pump turbine stator operates from 26Krpm-34Krpm; 69N forcing excites modes 10-18 between 30KHz-40Khz.
- Criteria triggers forced response analysis at worst case resonant condition.
- Finite life analysis, where actual fatigue damage during operational time is calculated, frequently used if endurance limit criteria violated.



# Many Turbopumps “Dither”

- May be beneficial to incorporate fact that real turbopumps dither about a nominal mean speed. (*separate from uncertainty in mean speed itself*)



- During time speed is not exactly at natural frequency, damage accumulation is significantly reduced.



# Literature, Purpose

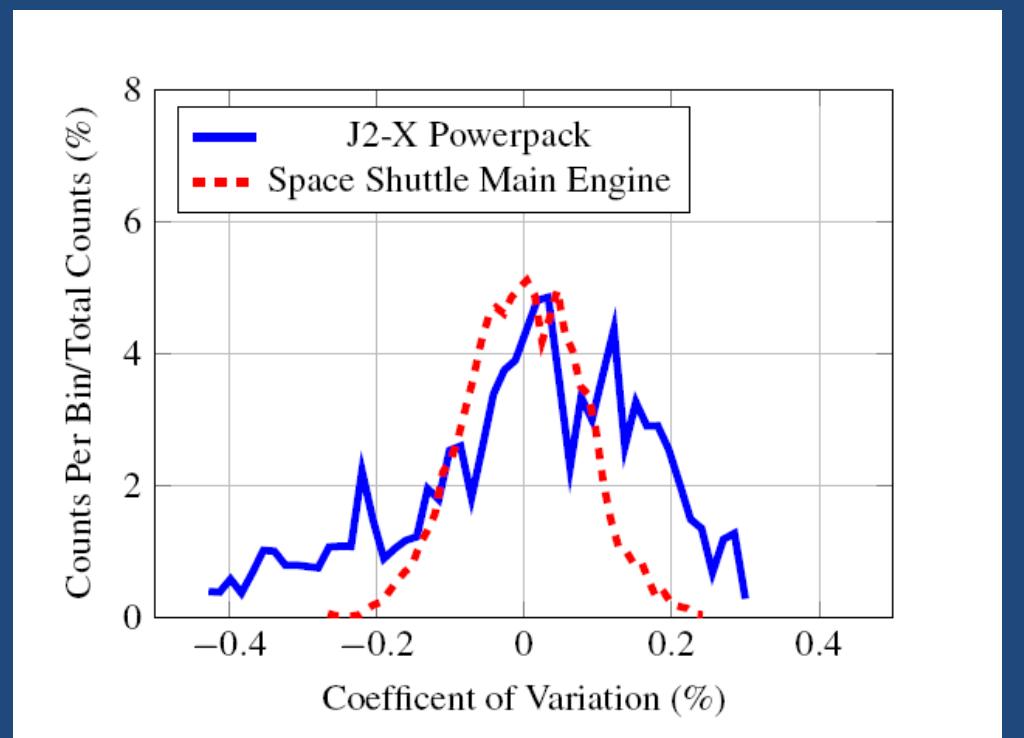
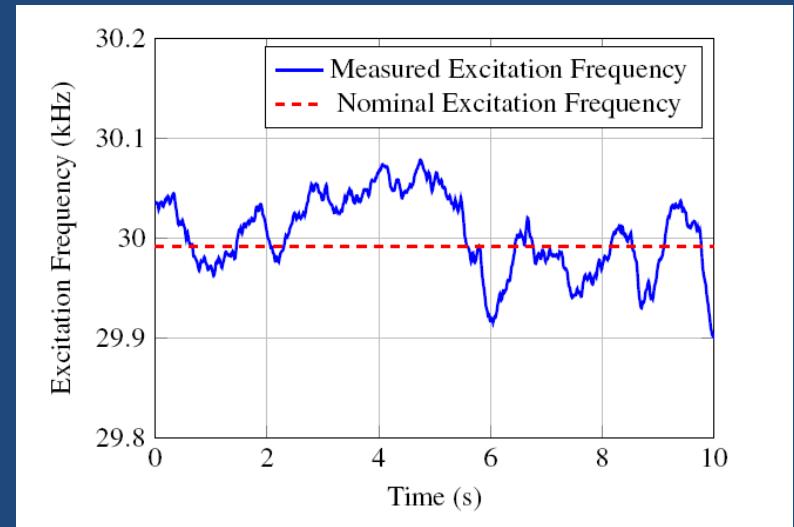
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- Initial studies of response of systems with time varying excitation frequency  $\Omega$  by Lewis- 1932, Cronin- 1965.
- Lollack, 2002, defined reduction in peak response for monotonically varying  $\Omega$ , useful for defining rate of sine-sweep tests.
- Henson, 2008, studied harmonically varying  $\Omega$ .
- For rocket engines,  $\Omega$  varies non-deterministically. Motivated previous work by authors (2010) that developed numerical approach for calculating response and general sensitivities.
- Unacceptable HCF factor for J2-X stator resonant 30Khz mode prompted need for practical technique.
- Purpose of this research
  - *to develop practical design techniques that account for excitation frequency stochasticity in the fatigue life of turbomachinery components.*



# Excitation Data

- Taken from hot-fire testing of J2-X and SSME.
- $\Omega$  = engine speed (hz)\*[forcing pressure distortions/Rev] (FPR).
- Since purpose is to examine fatigue life at resonance, actual mean speed adjusted to natural frequency for analysis.
- Histograms for two different engines show  $\sim$  Gaussian distribution of speed.





# Theoretical Basis, Numerical Transient Solution

- SDOF EoM

$$\ddot{x} + 2\zeta\omega\dot{x} + \omega^2 x = \frac{f(t)}{m}$$

where

$$f(t) = A \sin(\phi(t))$$

- $\Omega$  is derivative of  $\phi(t)$ , constant in classical vibration analysis.

For specified time-varying  $\Omega$ ,

$$\phi(t) = \int_0^t \Omega(\tau) d\tau$$

- Calculate A necessary to generate peak resonant value of  $\sigma_{alt}$  previously obtained by FEA,

$$\sigma_{alt} \equiv x = \frac{A}{\omega^2 2\zeta}$$

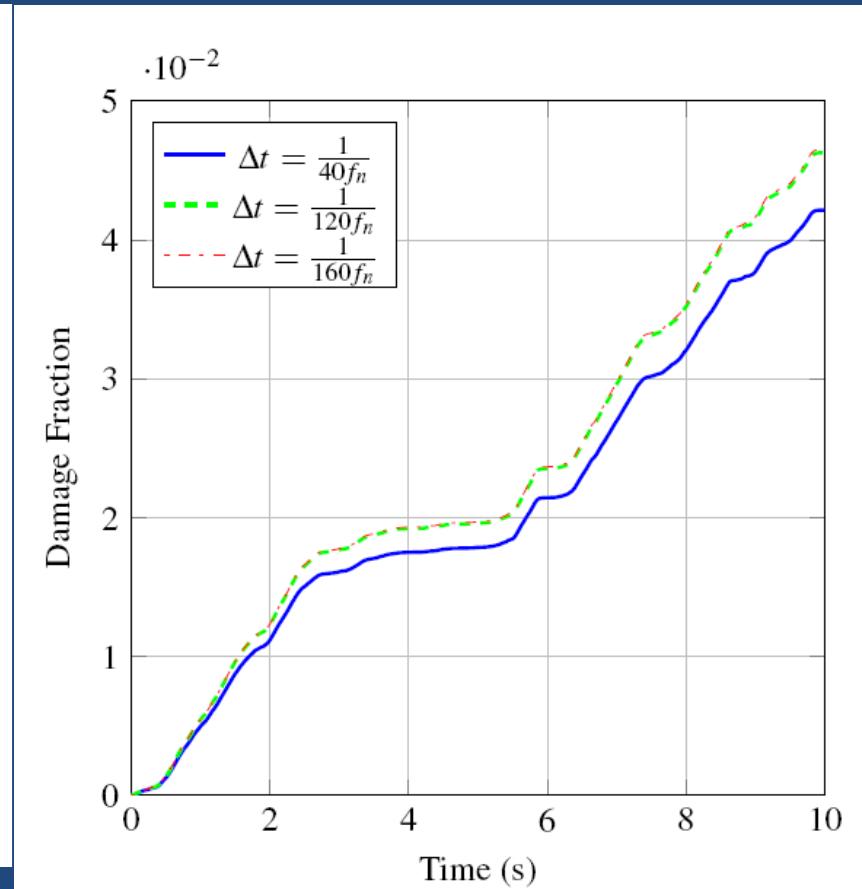
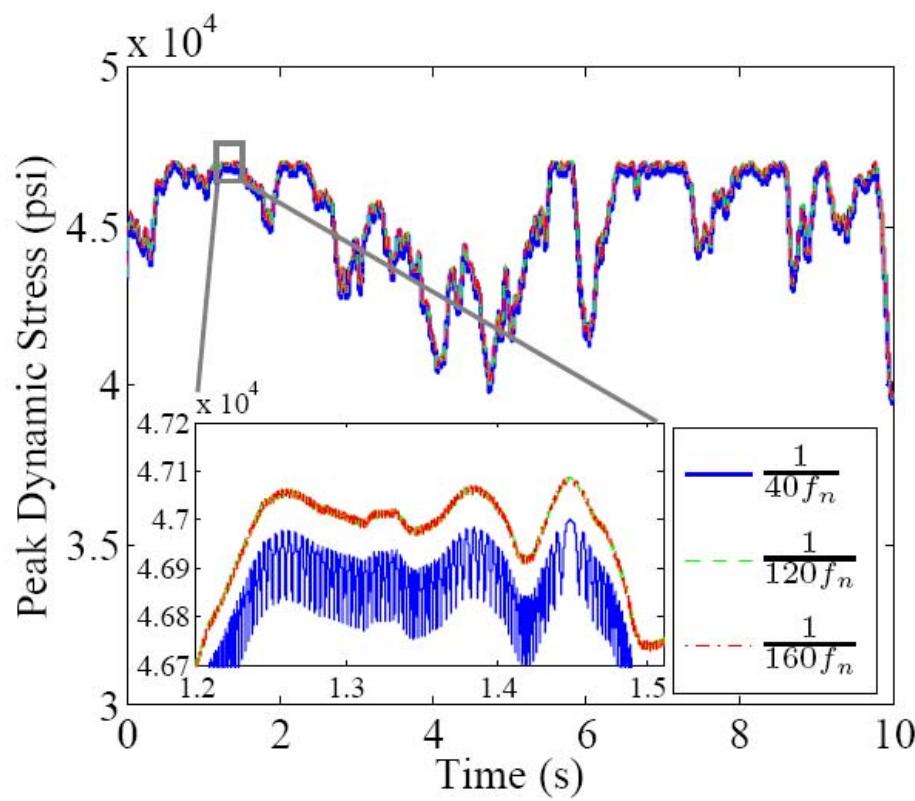
- Now can solve for  $\sigma_{alt}$  in EoM with using numerical Runge-Kutte procedure implemented in Matlab; agrees with Lollack's results for linearly varying  $\Omega$ .
- Finally, Calculate damage fraction  $\Phi$  using Miner's rule,  $\Phi = \sum_{i=1}^K \frac{n_i}{N}$  , which becomes

$$\Phi(t) = \int_0^t \frac{\Omega(\tau)}{N(\tau)} d\tau$$



# Convergence of Time Step in Transient Solution

- Applied deterministic speed variation from specific hot-fire test.
- Time histories of Peak Dynamic Stress and Damage Fraction generated.
- Convergence studies performed  $\rightarrow \Delta t = 1/120f_n$ .



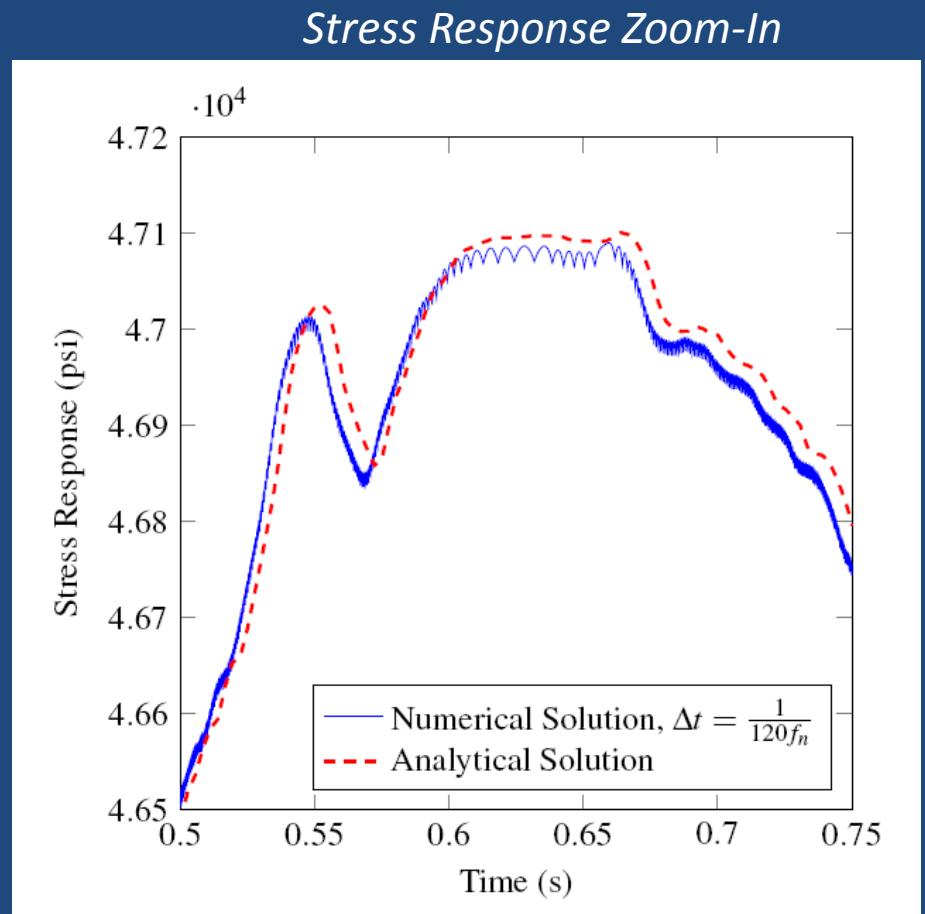


# Analytical Solution

- Hypothesis from previous work that if  $f_n \ll \frac{d(speed)}{dt}$ , then closed-form (computationally fast) standard analytical equation for SDOF steady-state response would be accurate.

$$x_{\text{steady-state}} = \frac{A/\omega^2}{\sqrt{\left(1 - \left(\frac{\Omega}{\omega}\right)^2\right)^2 - (2\zeta\frac{\Omega}{\omega})^2}}$$

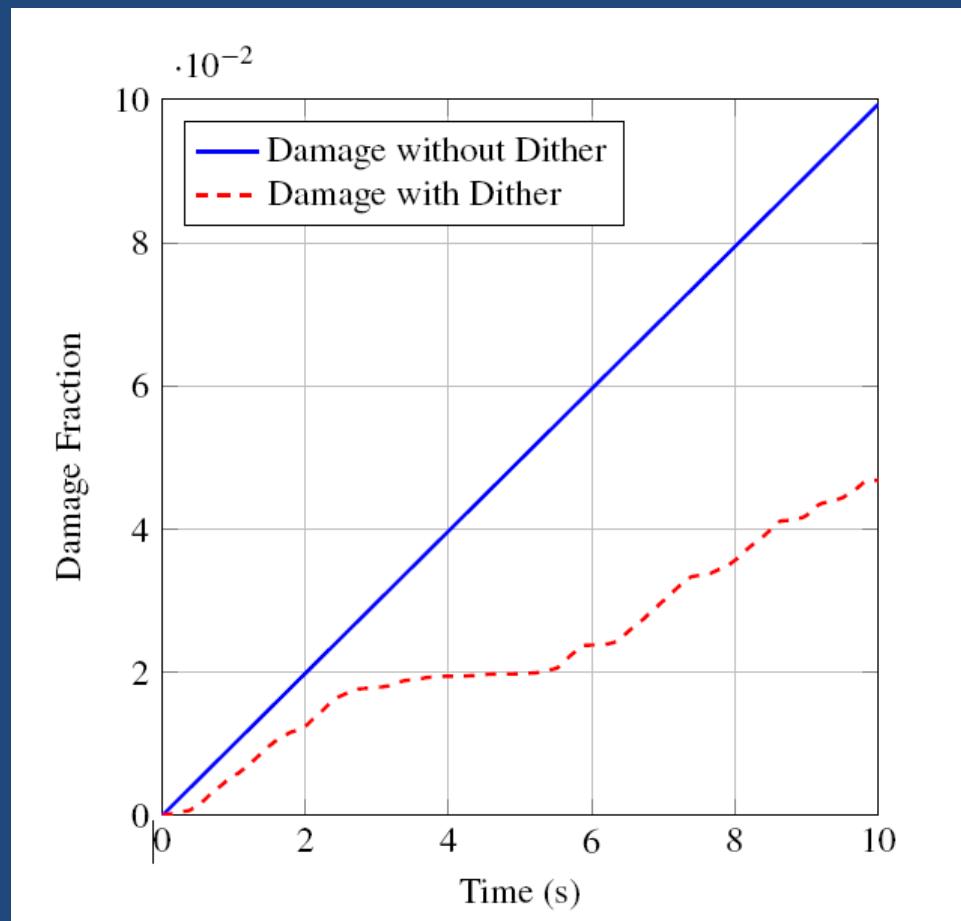
- Validation by comparing response with numerical transient solution.





## “Dither Life Ratio” for Specified Excitation History

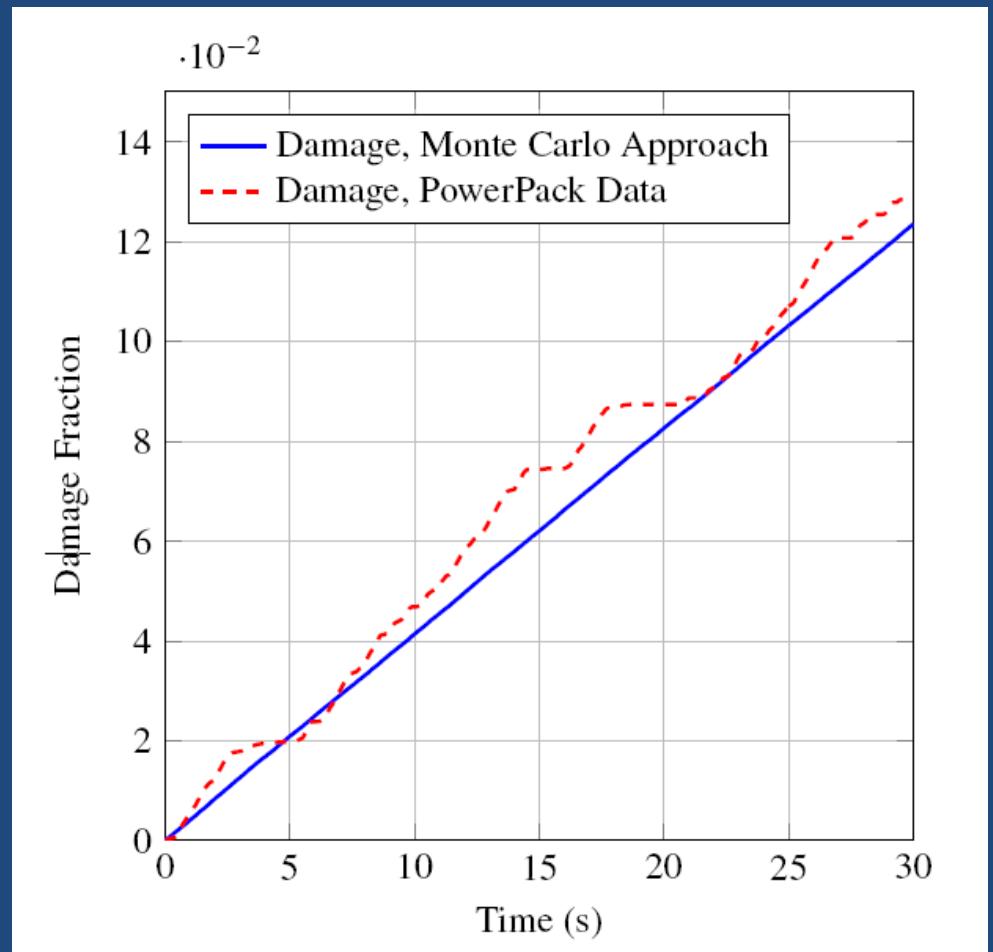
- Calculation of damage performed considering dither for specific 10 sec. window.
- Damage calculation assuming constant resonant excitation  $\rightarrow$  2.135 times more damage, call it “Dither Life Ratio”.





# Monte Carlo for Unknown Frequency History

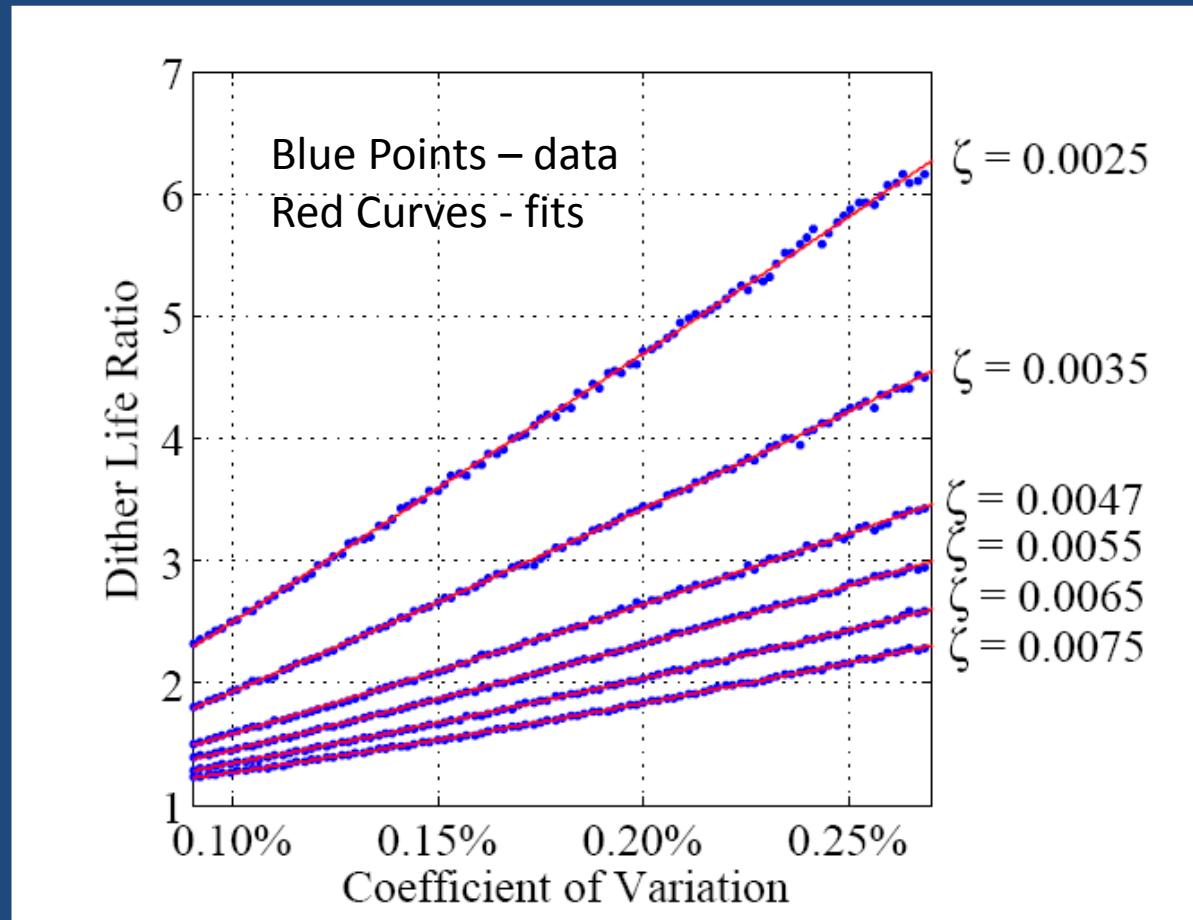
- During design phase, actual speed time histories unknown, but statistics from similar engines known.
- Prompted development of Monte Carlo method using rapid analytical solution.
- Speed vector created using Normal distribution.
- Powerpack data  $\rightarrow$  std dev = 38.6 hz (cov=0.129%).
- MC results linear because rate of change of frequency variation *not* correct (and very high), but damage accumulation is accurate on the average.





# Sensitivity of DLR to speed COV and $\zeta$

- Accuracy of Monte Carlo technique with analytical solution allows comprehensive sensitivity study to key parameters
- Results: Larger for high COV for speed, since more time spent off-resonance.
  - Larger for small  $\zeta$ , since peaks are sharper and time spent off-resonance will have less response.





# Conclusions

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- Numerical and Analytical methods developed to determine damage accumulation in specific engine components when speed variation included.
- Dither Life Ratio shown to be well over factor of 2 for specific example.
- Steady-State assumption shown to be accurate for most turbopump cases, allowing rapid calculation of DLR.
- If hot-fire speed data unknown, Monte Carlo method developed that uses speed statistics for similar engines.
- Application of techniques allow analyst to reduce both uncertainty and excess conservatism.
- High values of DLR could allow previously unacceptable part to pass HCF criteria without redesign.
- Given benefit and ease of implementation, recommend that any finite life turbomachine component analysis adopt these techniques.